Alberta Treasury
Economic Bulletin

ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK OF MAY 8 TO May 12, 2000

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month	Month'00/ Month'99	Comments
Rigs Drilling	April			
	137	-59.3%	158.5%	In the first four months of this year, the average number of rigs drilling was 314, up 57.1% compared to the same period last year. This is the strongest first four months since 1980, when an average of 322 rigs were drilling.
New Housing Price Index	March			
Edmonton	111.6	0.2%	2.4%	On a year-over year basis, new housing prices in Calgary rose by 2.7%, tying Toronto as the ninth largest increase among 21 major Canadian cities. Edmonton was eleventh with 2.4%. Declines were experienced in Victoria (-5.1%), Vancouver (-1.3%) and Sudbury -Thunder Bay (-1.2%).
Calgary	131.5	0.2%	2.7%	
Housing Starts	April			
Alberta – Urban	21,300	1.9%	21.6%	Alberta housing starts in April rose by 1.9% from March and are 21.6% higher than a year ago. This is a sharp contrast with the rest of Canada where housing starts fell 6.2% in April led declines in Ontario and Quebec.
Canada – Urban	135,000	-6.2%	8.9%	